

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 12
July 28, 2024



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
32 N. Front St.
Sunbury, PA 17801
570-286-7002

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, *Priest in Charge*

“Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.” -Ephesians 3:20

By mission does the church live: “you will be my witnesses,” said the Risen Jesus as we hear in Acts 1:8, just before he ascended into heaven. As the Body of Christ alive and at work in our world, **we are the church**- gathered and fed in Word and Sacrament before the Spirit calls **us** to bear joyful witness as we learn together to be the hands and feet of Christ everywhere we go. We are to see Christ in all others- to share the life-giving narrative of salvation with those to whom the Spirit sends us.

Please know you are always completely welcome here at St. Matthew’s for everything we do- our fellowship, our mission and outreach activities, our regular Sunday worship at 10am, and our occasional evening services. We hope and pray you will find this to be one of your spiritual homes- please do not hesitate to let us know what your needs are. All our contact information is listed at the back of this bulletin.

Our Worship follows the Episcopal tradition using the 1979 Book of Common Prayer and the Hymnal 1982, both of which you will find in the pew racks. We create a comprehensive bulletin for each service with the intention of making it easier to follow along and participate; if you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to ask someone near you. At services with music, you will need your Hymnal to sing the hymns and service music- **both are intended to be sung by everyone!**

All are welcome at the Lord’s Table. If you wish to receive communion, place your hands together to receive the bread and you may take a sip of wine directly from the chalice. We also have individual cups available that contain a small amount of wine and a wafer (the consecrated bread); please put your hands in front of you as if you were praying if you’d like this option. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you wish to receive a blessing, please come forward to the altar and cross your arms.

*Blessings and love to you on this holy day and always-
Mother Dina*

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 12
Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 10:00 am

Directions to stand, kneel, etc., in our services should always be considered an invitation. If you find any of these to be challenging, please worship in whatever pose may work for you, knowing you are fully in God's presence.

The Ringing of the Bells

We ring the sacristy bells five minutes before each service to invite us into the silence and reflection that helps to settle our souls for this time of shared and Spirit-filled worship.

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude **“All who hunger gather gladly”**
(Tune, *Holy Manna* from Southern Harmony)

Processional Hymn #437, The Hymnal 1982
“Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!”

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The people and Celebrant say together
Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant continues
Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The Gloria in Excelsis S-280, The Hymnal 1982
“Glory to God in the highest”

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O God, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons *The people sit.*

A Reading from the Prophet Samuel 2 Samuel 11:1-15

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When

they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 14 *Dixit insipiens Said in unison.*

1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." *

All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;
there is none who does any good.

2 The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all, *

to see if there is any who is wise,
if there is one who seeks after God.

3 Every one has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad; *

there is none who does good; no, not one.

4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers *

who eat up my people like bread and
do not call upon the LORD?

5 See how they tremble with fear, *

because God is in the company of the righteous.

6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, *
but the LORD is their refuge.

7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! *
when the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Church at Ephesus
Ephesians 3:14-21

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

#435, The Hymnal 1982

"At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow"

The Gospel: John 6:1-21

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival

of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Homily

Mother Dina

A time of silence after the homily is held for reflection.

The Nicene Creed *all stand and say together*

BCP 358

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

BCP 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and ever living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, and +Audrey, our bishop, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and

especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. *Today, in the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for and with St. Andrew's, Lewisburg. In our Diocesan/Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Trinity Episcopal Church, Chambersburg and The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East.*

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially our President Joe Biden; our Governor Josh Shapiro, our Mayor Josh Brosnious, and our Senator Lynda Schlegel-Culver, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, remembering especially those listed in our bulletin: Mother Dina and family, Father Fred and family, Frances (Fran), Angela, Tanya, Weston, Mike B., Anita, Carole, Richard S., the Sterner family, Dawson, Ellen and family, Erika, Stan R., Nancy R., Frank L., Tammy R., Barbara and family, Becky, Robert, Marley, Millie and family, Mary, Cindy Y., Leonard N., April B., family of Bill and Martha B., Curt, Tanner and the Fasold family, Tyanne, Former President Trump and family, the Comperatore family, and the other 2 injured bystanders. Please pray for all healthcare workers, especially Dan D., Kara, Melissa, Janice and their co-workers. Also, please pray for all serving in our military and law enforcement.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, *especially Jane B. and Corey Comperatore*, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in

thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of St. Matthew and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.
Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

BCP 332

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Offertory Hymn

#558, The Hymnal 1982

“Faith of our fathers”

The Presentation of the Offerings

#380, v.3, The Hymnal 1982

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow”

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer II

BCP 340

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

The Sanctus

S-130, The Hymnal 1982

“Holy, holy, holy”

The Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye

shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The people and Celebrant say together We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Celebrant says These are the Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. Amen.

Communion Hymn

#321, The Hymnal 1982

“My God, thy table now is spread”

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

The people and Celebrant pray together

Dearest Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we all cannot receive communion in the consecrated bread and wine, we pray you to come into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with our hearts, souls, and minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 339

The Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People Almighty and ever living God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very

members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing *The Priest blesses the people.*

Recessional Hymn #690, The Hymnal 1982
"Guide me, O thou great Jehovah"

The Dismissal *The Celebrant dismisses the People*
Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!
People Thanks be to God, and all God's people say, Amen!

Postlude "Great is the Lord" Michael W. Smith

Serving today's liturgy

The Reverend Dina Carter Ishler, *Celebrant and Preacher*
Patrick Ishler, *Music Minister; and St. Matthew's Choir*
Roy Casey, *Eucharistic Minister; Mary Ann Loftus, Thurifer*
Stephanie Sterner, *Lector; Barry Treon, Greeter and Usher*

PARISH NOTES for July 28, 2024

COLE ALLEN DIAPER PANTRY: The next Diaper Pantry will be Saturday, Aug. 3rd, 2024 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. We're in need of volunteers to distribute diapers. Please contact Connie Kistler at kistinpa@ptd.net. Monetary donations are very much welcomed, please give in an envelope labeled "Diaper Pantry." **Donations of diaper wipes and pull-ups are so appreciated and urgently needed- WE COVERED 95 BABY BOTTOMS IN JULY!**

HIS DISCIPLES FOOD PANTRY: Is the last Saturday of each month. Please contact John Blanchard, 570-286-5415, leave message, to volunteer. Donations of canned soups and cereals are welcome.

We fed 57 families in June! The next Food Pantry will be held Saturday, July 27, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. **Any donations are greatly appreciated!**

CHURCH SERVICE TIME is 10:00 AM. Masks are now optional. Please follow any current COVID restrictions.

CARLA'S OFFICE HOURS: Office hours are Tuesday and Wednesday, 10AM to 2PM, and Thursday, 10AM to Noon.
MOTHER DINA'S OFFICE/PASTORAL CALLING HOURS: Wednesday, 11:30- 5:00pm (or text/call (717) 481-0708 to plan a time to share together.) **I LOVE** hearing from you!

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY: Please prayerfully consider participating in this vital ministry. If interested in guiding our young people in their faith, please contact Mother Dina or Anissa DeCapria-Sanduta, 570-898-2275.

ALTAR SERVERS: St. Matthew's is looking for altar servers of **all ages** for the ministries of: **Eucharistic Minister, Crucifer, Torch Bearers, Lector, Thurifer, etc.** Please contact Mother Dina if interested in participating in these or **ANY** of our other ministries!

CHOIR REHEARSAL: NO rehearsals during the summer... please consider joining us in the fall. **We have a lot of fun while making music!**

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers are needed each month to sign up for a weekly coffee hour session. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Choir Room. Any questions, please contact Carol Hixson. This month's sign-ups are:

August 4th- **Need Volunteer**

August 11th- Rose/Kirk Miller

August 18th- Lynda Culver

August 25th- Mitzi Kerstetter

YOGA CLASSES: Yoga classes will be held in the Social Hall every Thursday **INCLUDING AUGUST 1st** starting at 7:00PM, **THEN NO YOGA UNTIL SEPTEMBER.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Please notify Elaine Schlegel, or the Parish Administrator, Carla Treon, of anyone who needs prayers so they may be added for the next upcoming Sunday.

COMMUNITY AID REMINDER: If you are cleaning out and taking things to Community Aid, please remember to use our **ID# 30026** so we can receive credit for those donations. By doing this,

we are continuing our partnership with them which then allows us to apply for grants through them to help benefit our Diaper Pantry.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Adult Bible Study on August 18th at 9:00AM. Any questions, please contact Nathan Blanchard.

VESTRY MEETING: The monthly Vestry Meeting will be held on August 21st at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall.

UP-COMING MONTHLY EVENTS: Details to follow closer to the time of the events. Please visit our website for more information

Sun., Aug. 4th: **NO monthly Breakfast/Children's Activity**

Sun., Aug. 18th: Adult Bible Study, 9:00AM

Wed., Aug. 21st: Vestry Meeting, 6PM, Social Hall

VESTRY MEMBERS: Fran Zartman, *Senior Warden*; Roy Casey, *Junior Warden*; Mary Ann Loftus, *Clerk of the Vestry*; Nathan Blanchard; Martha Bohner; Anissa DeCapria-Sanduta; Dana Kelly; Carol Lamparter; Pam Schlegel; Lynda Schlegel-Culver. Charlie Schlegel, *Senior Warden Emeritus*

SEXTON Sharon Baney

DONATIONS:

All tithes and offerings are most greatly appreciated, as we rely on your prayerful generosity to care lovingly for our physical space and to keep ourselves vital and active in our community through our worship, our witness, our outreach, and our presence.

You may now donate to Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church "online" at the link listed: <https://diocesecpa.org/stewardship>

Or you may continue to mail your contributions to:

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

32 N. Front St.

Sunbury, PA 17801

stmatthewsunbury@gmail.com (office email)

reverenddina@gmail.com (Mother Dina's email)

Please visit us at stmatthew-episcopal.org and follow us on
Facebook: [St. Matthew's Episcopal Church](#)
To connect with our livestreamed services, please go to our
YouTube channel: @St.MatthewsEpiscopalChurchSunB

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